

**Mail Stop: Patent Application**  
Commissioner of Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. TBD; Filed 2-24-2004

For: "Reconfigurable Optical Add-Drop Multiplexers Employing Optical Multiplex  
Section Shared Protection"  
Inventor: Mark J. Soulliere  
Docket No.: AVA-P040

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

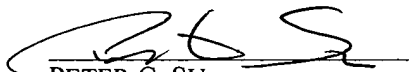
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1. Information Disclosure Statement and;
2. Information Disclosure Form PTO 1449 (with 7 references), and;
3. Return postcard

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Respectfully submitted,

February 24, 2004  
Date

  
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<b>37 CFR 1.501</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <b>IN A PATENT</b> (Sheet 1 of 1)				Docket Number: AVA-P040		Patent Number: Not Yet Known	
				Applicant: Mark J. Soulliere			
				Issue Date: Not Yet Known		Art Unit: Not Yet Known	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	US Patent 6,414,765	July 2, 2002	Li et al.				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
		M.J. Li et al, "Transparent two-fiber optical channel shared protection ring," Proc. of NFOEC 2001, pp. 419-430, Baltimore MD, 2001.					
		Mark J. Soulliere, Corning Incorporated, "Transparent Optical Channel shared protection ring," ANSI T1X1.5 standards contribution T1X1.5/2001-027, January 2001.					
		M.J. Li et al, "Two-fiber optical channel shared protection ring with 4x4 thermal-optic switches," Proc. of OFC 2001, paper Tu07-1.					
		Ming-Jun Li, Corning Incorporated, "Feasibility study of transparent optical channel shared protection ring," ANSI T1X1.5 standards contribution T1X1.5/2001-176, September 2001.					
		I. Tomkos et al, "Transparent ultra-long-haul optical networks enabled by broadcast and select OADMs," Proc. of SPIE, Vol. 4907, pp. 93-99, October 2002.					
		I. Tomkos et al, "Transparent ultra-long-haul optical networks enabled by broadcast and select OADMs," Proc. of SPIE, Vol. 4907, pp. 93-99, October 2002.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.501. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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